**Mr. C. R. Iyyunni** *(Trichur-South):* Is it a fact that in Calicut the mosquito nuisance has been completely wiped off?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* It has been abated to a very great extent. But still there is some, no doubt.

**SHORANUR—COCHIN RAILWAY—STATIONS—RAISING OF PLATFORMS.**

**165. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* Will the Government be pleased to state :—

whether they have come to know the hardship experienced by passengers especially ladies and old people in getting into and getting out of the compartments on account of the low plat-forms in the Railway stations on the Cochin line?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* The hon'ble member's attention is drawn to the answer to question No. 53 of the last Budget Session (vide page 304, Part 5, Vol. I. Fifth series of the Legislative Council Proceedings.)

**Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* May I know, Sir, what that answer is?

**Mr. President :** The hon'ble member may refer to that.

**Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* If this answer had been supplied to me yesterday, I would have had sufficient time to look into it. May I know whether this matter has been brought to the notice of the South Indian Railway Advisory Board?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* In fact the information that I have received from them two weeks back is this. There are yet 21 carriages on the broadguage to be fitted with third foot-steps and hand-rails and 4 to be fitted with hand-rails only. It is not possible to furnish any definite information with regard to the carriages running on the Shoranur-Cochin Railway as separate carriages are not provided, and as they may vary from day to day. So that now there are only about 21 which have to be fitted with these things. And a few may be running on our line now and then.

**Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* Is there any objection to raise the platform?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. Because the cost is prohibitive.

**SHORANUR—COCHIN RAILWAY—SINKING OF WELL.**

**166. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* Will the Government be pleased to state:—

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(*a*) the amounts spent by the Cochin Railway for each of the 2 new wells sunk at the Trichur Railway Station and on south-western side of the Chalakkudi bridge ;

(*b*) whether tenders were called for ;

(*c*) if so, who were the tenderers and what were the rates quoted by each ; whose tender was accepted ;

(*d*) who was the officer who called for tenders ;

(*e*) has the Cochin Government any voice in the matter of giving contracts in the Shoranur-Cochin Line ?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Rs. 9,994 for the well at Trichur and Rs. 11,444 for the well at Chalakkudi.

(*b*) Tenders were called for, for the work of the well at Trichur. But, for the well at Chalakkudi, tenders were not called for. This work was executed at District rates in view of its urgency.

(*c*) The tenders were for all the works of the Conversion scheme. 32 contractors tendered for these works. Particulars of the tender amounts of the various tenderers are not available.

(*d*) The Chief Engineer, South Indian Railway.

(*e*) No.

**Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* Have our Public Works Department spent at least one fourth of this amount to dig any well in any part of our State ?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* Had our Government any occasion to dig wells of this type ?

**Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* In hills also we have dug wells. Had we any occasion to spend one fourth of that amount ?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* Probably the hon'ble member has no idea as to the diameter of the well.

**Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* It is a big well, not a tank.

Is it not necessary that we should have some voice in giving tenders for these works ?

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon** *(Chief Engineer):* The estimate is sanctioned by the Government. After the estimates are sanctioned, we do not further interfere in the matter. It is for them to make their own arrangements.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

**Mr. C. R. Iyyunni** *(Trichur-South):* May I know when this digging of wells began ?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* I want notice.

**Mr. C. R. Iyyunni** *(Trichur-South):* I have been seeing the well there for a very long time. It is more than a year now.

**Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* What is the harm in asking the Railway authorities to call for tenders before they do these works ?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* That has already been answered. In fact tenders were called for. It is only with reference to the well at Chalakkudi which was considered to be urgent that they did not call for tenders and gave it at District rates.

**Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty** *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* May I know, Sir, whether the Cochin Government scrutinises the estimates sent by the Railway authorities ?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

**Mr. C. R. Iyyunni** *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether there is any difference between the District rates and the schedule rates in Cochin? Is there a rate for a province, taluk etc.? They seem to insist upon the word 'District'. What does it mean?

**Mr. President :** The South Indian Railway Company has divided the entire area into various districts. Now Cochin comes under one of those Districts for their purpose. A particular rate is given to a particular District. That is what they mean by District rates.

**Mr. C. R. Iyyunni** *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether there is any differnce in the rates followed by the Railway—the district rates—and the rates of our P. W. D.?

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon** *(Chief Engineer):* There may be some difference.

**Mr. President :** Estimates are now sent by the Railway for scrutiny, and if there is any difference we point them out.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഇതു് ആരാണു് സ്ക്രൂട്ടിനൈസ് ചെയ്യുന്നു് ?

**Mr. President:** Public Works Department.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: അതിൽ വല്ല ആൾട്ടറേഷൻസും വരുത്തിയാൽ അവർ സമ്മതിക്കുമോയെന്നു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയർ അവർകൾ പറഞ്ഞാൽ കൊള്ളാം.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon** *(Chief Engineer):* Oh, Yes: In several cases we have made alterations in their estimates.

**SHORANUR—COCHIN RAILWAY—STAFF EMPLOYED ON.**

**167. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* Will the Government be pleased to furnish the list of the permanent staff employed in all the Railway Stations in the Shoranur—Cochin line under the following heads:—

(1) Station staff;

(2) P. W. Department;

(3) Guards, Under-guards, Engine drivers, etc., charged under running train section;

(4) Catering and other General Departments?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* A statement showing the particulars of staff is appended (*Vide Appendix I*). It is pointed out that in the case of Guards, Drivers, etc. no separate staff have been detailed to work exclusively for the trains on the Shoranur—Cochin Railway. It is the practice for the staff with their Head-quarters outside the limits of the Shoranur—Cochin Railway to be detailed for work on this line and *vice versa* The information given in the statement in respect of this category of staff is, therefore, based on the number of trains working on this line.

**SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY—ATTACHING OF THROUGH CARRIAGES TO TRICHINOPOLY.**

**168. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* Will the Government be pleased to impress upon the Railway administration the necessity of attaching through carriages between Trichinopoly and Ernakulam.

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* The Railway Authorities say that, in addition to the fact that there is no room for any extra carriage on the "Malabar-Cochin Express," the number of through passengers does not justify the introduction of a through carriage between Ernakulam and Trichinopoly.

**SECRETARIAT RECORD ROOM—SEPARATION OF RECORDS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST.**

**169. Mr. Shabdai S. Koder** *(Nominated):* Will the Government be pleased to state whether the record room attached to the Secretariat building has been completed and whether the records of historical interest have now been separated from the other records?

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar** *(Secretary to Government):* The room has been completed. The records of historical importance have not been separated from the other records.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly